

2011 Annual Report

DURHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT



Safe & Secure



Residents Feel Safe

Feelings of safety have been steadily improving for the last five years. In addition, more residents than ever before feel the Durham Police Department (DPD) is doing a good job.

Results of the City's 2011 Resident Satisfaction Survey show residents feel the City is moving in the right direction in several service areas including public protection. The survey shows that 49 percent of those who responded are satisfied with the overall feeling of safety in the city, which is a slight increase from 2009 and a dramatic increase from 2005. Residents felt most safe walking alone in their neighborhood during the day at 86 percent, followed by 64 percent when visiting a City recreation center, 60 percent in downtown Durham, and 56 percent walking alone in their neighborhood at night. All of these are up from the 2009 survey, which were 80 percent, 60 percent, 56 percent, and 42 percent respectively. Residents felt least safe when riding the Durham Area Transit Authority (DATA)/Bull City Connector at 48 percent. The 2011 survey was the first time residents were asked about their feelings of safety when riding DATA, so no prior year comparison is available.

Durham Convention & Visitors Bureau's 2011 image study indicated 69 percent of residents believe DPD is doing a good job of protecting and serving Durham residents, the highest level since polling began in 2005. By a margin of more than 7 to 1, residents feel DPD is working closely with the community. Nearly 7 out of 10 (68.5 percent) residents feel safe or very safe, up from a low of 30 percent in 2005, but short of the highs of 76 percent and 79 percent in 2006 and 2007 respectively.



Message from the Chief

It is gratifying to know that a significant majority of Durham residents are satisfied with services provided by their police department. The Durham Police Department (DPD) continually strives to enhance public safety for all residents and for every neighborhood by implementing proactive, creative and innovative strategies. DPD's approximately 600 employees consider it a privilege to deliver law enforcement and outreach services to a community distinguished by engaged, resourceful and charitable residents, businesses, educational institutions and human service agencies.

In 2011, the City of Durham organization formally launched its first-ever strategic plan. Goal 2 of the plan is *A Safe and Secure Community*. The plan translates our community's vision and City Council's goals into actions and outcomes. I am pleased that DPD has made significant public safety strides in 2011—a number of which are included in this publication.

For instance:

- Durham residents and North Carolinians can feel safer and more secure when reporting crime through 911. Stronger 911 legislation, initiated by DPD in collaboration with Durham Emergency Communications Center, now helps to protect the identity of 911 callers.

- New in-car cameras now help protect officers as well as residents and can be assets in court cases.
- More DPD officers were better equipped to facilitate safe and successful interventions with vulnerable populations through innovative and sustained collaborations like the newly implemented BECOMING project.
- The number of backlogged warrants was reduced by almost 20,000.
- DPD established an in-house firearms forensics laboratory to test firearms more quickly and efficiently.
- The formation of the Violent Incident Response Team (VIRT) helped to facilitate a more intense focus on gun crimes and violent offenders.

Also, it is encouraging that DPD 2011 crime statistics show the lowest Part 1 crime totals (property crime plus violent crime) in the last decade. However, significant challenges remain. Of the 27 homicides reported in 2011, one-third involved domestic violence. Please take the time to review and comprehend the various crime statistics provided in this publication as they give context for the year's successes and future goals. A summary of 2011 survey results of residents' perceptions of safety is also provided.



You can rest assured that DPD is committed to do its part to support Durham's vision to be the leading city in providing an excellent and sustainable quality of life. We always welcome your feedback regarding our delivery of law enforcement and public safety services. Moreover your proactive participation in DPD crime prevention and community policing initiatives is key to maintaining a community that is safe and secure.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jose L. Lopez, Sr.".

Jose L. Lopez, Sr.
Chief of Police

In Safe Hands

DPD is sensitive and responsive to the safety needs of special populations through intervention training, human service partnerships, advocacy assistance and policy implementation.

In 2011, the **Domestic Violence Unit** (DVU) was awarded a \$339,459 grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Violence Against Women to support officer training, victims' rights and legal advocates. The unit launched its quarterly DVU Most Wanted campaign to heighten awareness of the top 20 offenders. Each poster led to an average of eight arrests each time it was distributed in the community. Also, DPD helps to pay for a Domestic Violence Assistant District Attorney position and beginning July 2012, the department will also give fiscal support to a Legal Assistant position.

Follow-up services are provided to children and families exposed to violence through DPD's **North Carolina Child Response Initiative** (NCCRI). A partnership between DPD and the Center for Child and Family Health, NCCRI managed 491 referrals in 2011. Of the referrals made by officers, 81.5 percent received clinical consultation and follow-up, 18.9 percent were referred for further interventions and 16.5 percent participated in assessment.

Officers of DPD's Motor Unit teach a day-long skills course to motorcyclists as part of **BikeSafe-NC**. A

\$93,500 grant through the Governor's Highway Safety Program funds the program aimed at reducing motorcycle-related accidents and fatalities. In 2011, the grant established DPD's Motor Unit as the Triad Region Coordinator—enabling the unit to teach monthly hands-on bike safe classes, conduct checkpoints, and establish other agencies as BikeSafe centers across the Triad area.

Victim Services advocates work to ensure that crime victims and witnesses are treated with fairness, dignity and compassion. The unit provides confidential services to victims and witnesses of violent crimes on a 24-hour basis. In 2011, the unit assisted 1,462 victims—including 1,497 agency referrals; 180 form assists; 11 court accompaniments; and 58 home visits and follow-ups.



More than 244,000 controlled, prescription and over-the-counter pills were safely disposed as part of **Operation Medicine Drop** events supported by DPD's **Special Operations Unit**. The events provide a means to properly discard over-the-counter drugs and prescribed medications to deter drug abuse, accidental poisonings and polluting of waterways. The disposal process ends with professional incineration of the medicines and burial of the waste.

Safe and successful interventions with mentally ill residents are being achieved through DPD and behavioral health agency collaborations:

Transition-age youth (ages 16 to 21) who have serious emotional disturbances can connect to life-changing services through the **BECOMING** program. A special unit (a clinical care coordinator and two dedicated police officers) established within DPD's Community Services Bureau in 2011 works to address participants' clinical, developmental and social needs. BECOMING is funded by a \$5.4 million federal grant and a \$7.7 million non-federal match. As one of 13 partner agencies, DPD will contribute \$897,786.

Thirty-two more DPD officers are trained to recognize forms of mental illness and to apply appropriate de-escalation techniques as 2011 graduates of Durham **CIT** (crisis intervention training). Since its start in 2007, Durham CIT has graduated 251 police officers—163 Durham officers and 88 from other agencies. CIT's



primary goals are improved officer and consumer safety and the redirection of individuals with mental illness from the judicial system to the health care system.

Implemented in 2011, DPD's **Mental Health Outreach Program** (MHOP) seeks to reduce arrests and service requests among mentally ill persons age 16 and older who are non-violent repeat offenders. Funded through a two-year \$312,500 Bureau of Justice Assistance grant, MHOP supplements CIT and NCCRI intervention efforts with extended outreach, follow-up and officer training. Between January 2011 and January 2012, MHOP served 447 clients and completed 620 referrals. Mental health services comprised 47 percent of all referrals made. In 2011, a prostitution outreach effort offered 16

female arrestees assistance. Three took advantage of immediate services; others signed up for follow-up.

The establishment of a **new police code** to clear police calls related to mental health issues, substance abuse and/or homelessness helps DPD to more efficiently track increasing numbers of calls for service relating to these issues. In 2011, officers cleared 2,300 calls using the new code.

In 2011, DPD raised \$7,234 for the **Special Olympics North Carolina** to help transform lives of children and adults with intellectual disabilities. DPD employees contributed to fundraising and awareness events like the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Red Robin Tip-A-Cop and Chick-Fil-A Cops-on-Top.

Stronger 911 Legislation Passed

Protecting the identity of callers to 911 was made easier by the passage of **NC Senate Bill 98** in June 2011. Law enforcement now has the option to release altered voice recordings or transcripts of 911 calls when responding to public records requests. DPD, in collaboration with Durham Emergency Communications Center, initiated the stronger legislation with the support of the Durham Crime Cabinet and local elected officials to further promote community policing ideals and to encourage residents to report crime.

Strategies and Strides

Crime fighting strides have been achieved through innovative abatement strategies, community engagement programs and heightened enforcement efforts.

DPD piloted its **Residential Awareness Program** (RAP) to stem residential burglaries. RAP is grounded in crime data analysis of near-repeat burglary patterns coupled with aggressive crime prevention outreach and targeted traffic enforcement. DPD's Crime Prevention Unit canvasses near-repeat locations to inform residents of burglaries near their home, provides strategies to minimize homes' curb appeal to burglars and conducts evaluations of environs to identify safety risks. Traffic Services conducts enforcement activities to detect suspicious persons, solicit tips from residents and deter more incidents. DPD worked with Durham Emergency Communication Center to expand Code Red messaging to issue RAP telephone alerts that encourage residents to implement crime prevention strategies and to report suspicious persons. RAP efforts in three months of operation helped to clear more than a dozen cases (at least 11 burglaries, two aggravated assaults and one robbery) and resulted in six arrests.

Nationwide, with theft of scrap metals on the rise due to a slow economy and the escalating price of precious metals, DPD focused efforts on the illegal purchase and sale of items like copper piping, air conditioner

coils, street signs, catalytic converters, cemetery markers, and propane tanks. The goal was to curtail break-ins and larcenies that in many incidents cost victims thousands of dollars in residual damages. DPD's undercover **scrap metal operation** spanned several months and primarily targeted four Durham businesses. The operation resulted in the charging of 10 employees of the businesses who failed to require identification from the sellers as required by law.

In year two of operation the **Warrant Squad** served 7,160 warrants on more than 2,200 people. Thirteen operations involving other DPD units, state and federal law enforcement agencies, yielded 509 arrests and cleared more than 1,200 warrants from the system. The total number of warrants was reduced by 19,302 (from 49,285 to 29,983 during the calendar year). Behind-the-scene tasks like establishing accurate



addresses and verifying the status of incarcerated and deceased subjects helped to alleviate the backlog. Contributing to results were initiatives like warrant notifications letters to misdemeanor suspects and offenders, the Bull City Hot Sheet and CrimeStoppers Weekend Wanted posters. The squad's force was increased by one officer in 2011 for a total of five.

The **Durham Crime Information Center** (DCIC), inclusive of Criminal Intelligence and Crime Analysis Units, enhanced its ability to collect and analyze telephone records. As telephone companies require a court order for release of call data to law enforcement, DCIC created a template for writing orders to ensure getting the right call data in the proper format and to minimize multiple orders as the investigation progresses. The new process also establishes stronger protocols related to examination of seized phones. Historical call data can be a pivotal resource during case investigations. Centralization of these records allows for stronger cross-case analysis and pattern development.



Durham earned four national rankings in the 2011 **National Night Out** (NNO) awards competition, setting a new precedent for DPD. Durham moved up in the awards competition to rank number eight among similar-sized NNO cities. Three Durham neighborhoods, among 55 hopefuls nationwide, were named NNO All-Stars—tying a national record: first time winner University Estates Community Watch

and veteran winners Azalea Park Apartments and Audubon Park Homeowners Association.

Captains of police districts 1, 3 and 4 each made friendly neighborhood visits, called Commander's Tours, to connect with residents and distribute printed resources. Residents were conveniently able to walk outside their front door to ask questions about police services and convey concerns directly to district command staff and officers. Collectively, tours in each district encompassed more than 40 stops.

Operation Bull's Eye results have been significant over the four-year implementation period (since August 2007) with violent gun crime dropping more than 51 percent and the elimination of the large "hot spot" that once spanned the two square mile target area. Although the number of reported shots fired remained relatively unchanged, such crimes dropped 29.4 percent overall from 184 to 130 incidents. Non self initiated prostitution calls and drugs call for service in the Bull's Eye area dropped 69.3 percent and more than 50 percent respectively.

Outreach to Durham Housing Authority (DHA) residents included two crime prevention retreats and a youth initiative. **Project Safe Neighborhoods** connected middle school age residents in five communities with officers for casual dining coupled with talks about bullying, gangs and police protocol. Two retreats hosted by the **Crime Prevention Unit**



raises awareness of DPD and community programs that provide safety resources and youth enrichment.

DPD debuted its "Choose Your Ride" vehicle—a half patrol car/half taxi cab hybrid—to call attention to the issue of drinking and driving.

DPD's **Violent Incident Response** (VIR) initiative continued in 2011 with emphasis on aggravated assaults. VIR is a collaborative effort of the NC Division of Community Corrections, the Durham County District Attorney's Office, the Durham County Sheriff's Office and the community. Operations are both incident and data driven focusing on individuals and groups. An eight-day VIR in response to a homicide encompassed 319 directed patrols, 14 business contacts, 16 property checks, 55 knock and talks, 54 license checks, 86 traffic stops, six traffic citations and 34 intelligence submissions. Another VIR, spanning six weeks, resulted in the seizure of 10 firearms and the arrests of 87 individuals on 43 felony charges and 122 misdemeanor charges. A new nine-officer **Violent Incident Response Team** (VIRT) includes eight DPD officers and one Durham County sheriff's deputy.



Secure Investments

Facility enhancements, new technology, employee training and marketing campaigns are yielding positive outcomes toward improved safety, operational efficiencies and public perception.

Phase two of a project to upgrade DPD's in-car video system began in 2011. Durham City Council approved \$322,446 in asset forfeiture funds to replace the former in-car video system with high quality digital in-car video, wireless upload, and a new storage and video management system. Beginning with patrol cars

in District 2 and the Highway Interdiction Unit, this phase involves 38 vehicles and wireless installations at police headquarters and three additional substations. Not only does the new technology give officers greater protection, it can be an asset in court cases. The system manages video evidence through its storage, search and retrieval processes; ensures chain of custody and file integrity; and manages file retention as required by legislation. The system will be installed in remaining front-line patrol cars in 2012.

DPD raised officers' standard for yearly firearms qualification from 70 to 80 percent. Officers must



demonstrate 80 percent mastery of the shooting exam during both daytime and nighttime drills. The higher standard further reflects DPD's commitment to proficiency as the department's basic law enforcement training academy already requires 300 hours of police training for new recruits beyond what is mandated by the state of North Carolina.

The Training Unit collaborated with the North Carolina Humane Society to teach officers strategies for spotting signs of animal cruelty, safely handling animals and maintaining personal safety in the line of duty. The training session also provided officers tips on reading dog behaviors and responding to behavior cues in addition to discussions on actual animal encounters when responding to calls for police service.

For three months in 2011, the DPD implemented cost saving measures to bridge budget gaps associated with the rising cost of gasoline. To help conserve gasoline, officers were not allowed to use City vehicles on off-duty security jobs except in instances necessitating



New Firearms Testing Laboratory

DPD's first-ever firearms testing laboratory began operations in 2011. The lab forensically processes all firearms, recovered by the department (or as requested by other agencies) to include fingerprints and DNA recovery; serial number restoration; test firing for entry into National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) system; and eTrace thru the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). Utilizing asset forfeiture and Controlled Substance Acts Distribution funds, Durham City Council approved \$35,000 to help pay for firearms analyst training.



"Our in-house lab helps the department to test firearms more quickly and efficiently," says Donna Jackson, firearms examiner in DPD's Forensics Services. "Anytime we can be more self-sufficient in our lab, we are a stronger tool for the investigative staff and the better we serve the community."

Minimal turnaround time for processing recovered evidence is critical to investigating a hot scene (the first 24 to 48 hours after a crime incident). DPD's ability to process firearms in-house, as opposed to sending evidence to an external lab, could help to reduce turnaround time by as much as one year in some instances, according to Jackson. Also, the new lab gives DPD the ability to prioritize evidence processing.

"We want to minimize cold leads," adds Jackson. The goal of Forensics Services is to provide investigators with helpful facts and timely information they can use when interviewing witnesses and potential suspects."

heightened visibility and security. As necessary, vehicles equipped for transport of DPD canines were permitted to run idling to ensure the comfort and welfare of police dogs.

DPD will have a permanent presence in the first-ever National Law Enforcement Museum anticipated to open early 2014 in the nation's capital. As a contributor to the museum's Thin Blue Line feature, the department's name will be included on the glass bridge connecting the east and west mezzanine levels overlooking the main concourse at the museum. DPD's \$1,000 contribution in asset forfeiture funds will help

increase public appreciation and understanding of law enforcement through interactive exhibits, collections, research and education. In addition to housing the country's most comprehensive collection of law enforcement historical and contemporary artifacts, the museum will offer a range of educational programs for school-age children, adults and law enforcement professionals.

Carter Goble Associates, Inc. provided City of Durham administrators with the final draft of the DPD Master Facilities Study in January 2012. The study, which began in 2010, includes an assessment of existing

facilities and space conditions, and a space needs projection through 2030 with cost estimates. Results of the study and recommendations will become DPD's facilities planning tool for the future as approved by Durham City Council. DPD is already in the process of reducing the number of building leases as feasible. For example, in 2012 administrators aim to centralize property and evidence functions which are currently spread across four locations. Storing and processing property and evidence at a central location will also simplify protocols for chain of custody and security and free up space in the basement of Headquarters for other police units.

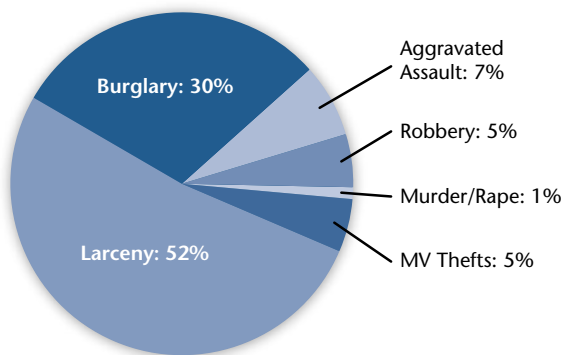
Safety Measures

Budget & Staffing

(Fiscal Year 2011-12)

- Budget: \$ 49,232,952 (General Fund)
- Positions: 613 (Sworn: 496, Non-Sworn: 117)
- Fiscal Year means June 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.

Overall Part I Index Crime

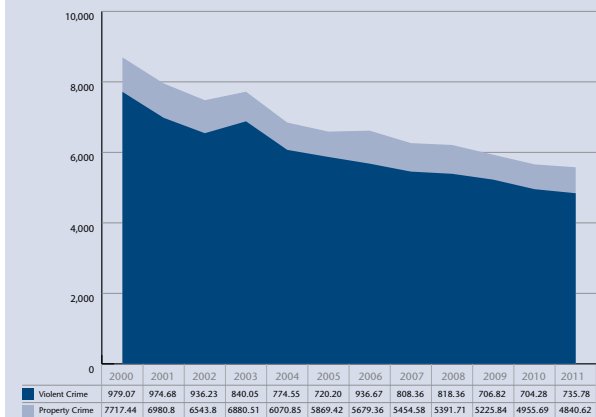


Part I Crime is the total of violent crimes (murder, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) and property crime (burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft).

- Part 1 Index crime was at a 10-year low.
- Index crimes per 100,000 were down 2.5 percent in 2011 compared to 2010 and down by 30 percent since 2001.

- Rapes, larcenies, motor vehicle thefts and property crimes decreased in 2011 compared to 2010.
- Violent crime comprised about 13 percent of all Part 1 crime reported. Murder and rape combined accounted for less than 1 percent of Part 1 crime.
- Larcenies make up more than half—52 percent—of all Part 1 crime. Approximately 40 percent of all larcenies involved thefts of vehicle parts or thefts from vehicles, which are some of the most preventable crimes. Many thefts from vehicles involved items left in plain view. Approximately one-quarter of all larcenies involved shoplifting.

Index Crime Rate per 100,000 Population by Year



Part I Violent Crime

- Violent crime rate per 100,000 population increased by 4 percent compared to 2010 , but dropped by 25 percent since 2001.
- Although aggravated assaults increased, the actual number of incidents remained almost the same—695 in 2010 and 697 in 2011. (The IBR reporting system requires that agencies count aggravated assaults by the number of potential victims, not by the number of incidents. Not all aggravated assault victims are actually injured. For example, shots could be fired into an occupied house and no one is injured but individuals were potentially in danger). Approximately one-third of the cases were domestic, which was similar to 2010.
- There were 27 homicides reported in 2011 plus one officer-involved shooting. Nine of the 27 homicides involved domestic violence. Arrests have been made in 13 of the 27 cases and one case was cleared by death of the offender. Two cold cases from 2010 were also cleared in 2011. (Note: In early 2012, a 2011 double homicide was cleared after forensic evidence indicated the two men fatally shot each other. That clearance will not be reflected in the 2011 crime statistics given to the FBI). While there were actually 27 homicides reported in 2011, a 2010

Part 1: Violent Crime

	3-Year Average	2009	2010	2011	2010-2011 % Change
Homicide	24	21	24	26*	8%
Rape	67	67	67	66	-1%
Robbery	694	716	666	701	5%
Aggravated Assault	866	801	877	919	5%
Violent Crime	1,650	1,605	1,634	1,712	5%

*There were 27 homicides reported in Durham during 2011 but the official number of homicides reported to the FBI is 26 for 2011 due to a 2010 homicide being exceptionally cleared (self-defense) in 2011.

Part 1: Property Crimes

	3-Year Average	2009	2010	2011	2010-2011 % Change
Burglary	3,741	3,655	3,687	3,881	5%
Larceny	7,045	7,313	7,046	6,775	-4%
Vehicle Theft	690	743	719	607	-16%
Property Crime	11,475	11,711	11,452	11,263	-2%

homicide case was unfounded in 2011 and subtracted from the 2011 statistics per IBR reporting standards and is shown as 26 homicides (denoted by an asterisk on Part I Violent Crime Chart).

Part I Property Crime

- Property crime rate per 100,000 population was down 3 percent compared to 2010.
- Reported property crimes, motor vehicle thefts and larcenies were at 10 year lows.
- Property crime rate per 100,000 population decreased by 31 percent since 2001.
- Metal thefts (and the illegal sale and purchase of copper and other scrap metals) was ongoing problem in Durham and across the nation.

- Shoplifting accounted for approximately one-quarter of the larcenies.

Clearance Rates

- DPD is above the FBI clearance rates in all Part 1 crime categories with the exception of homicide. The clearance chart does not include two 2011 homicides cleared in early 2012, which was too late to be included in the FBI official statistics.
- DPD's goal was to have a violent crime clearance rate of 45 percent and a property crime clearance rate of 22 percent. DPD met its property crime goal and significantly exceeded its goal for violent crime clearance.

Clearance Rates

Crime Category	DPD 2011	DPD 2010	FBI 2010
Homicide	53.8%	76.0%	62.5%
Rape	68.2%	61.1%	36.6%
Robbery	32.4%	33.1%	27.6%
Aggravated Assault	59.9%	61.6%	54.0%
Violent Crime	48.9%	50.1%	44.3%
Burglary	17.8%	18.7%	11.0%
Larceny	25.2%	25.4%	20.9%
Vehicle Theft	17.5%	17.2%	10.0%
Property Crime	22.2%	22.7%	17.6%





Durham Police Department Directory

For life threatening and in-progress emergencies, call **911**

To report non-emergency incidents (barking dogs, loud music, past crimes), call **919-560-4600**

Website: www.durhampolice.com



Headquarters:	District 1:	District 2:	District 3:	District 4:	Central District:
505 W. Chapel Hill Street	921 Holloway Street	5285 N. Roxboro Road	#8 Consultant Place	3022-B Fayetteville Street	516 Rigsbee Avenue
919-560-4427	(across from Long	(lot of Eno Square	(near Wynnsong	(Eagle Village	919-560-4935
(Desk Officer)	Meadow Park)	Shopping Ctr.)	Movie Plaza)	Service Ctr.)	
	919-560-4281	919-560-4582	919-560-4583	919-560-4415	

All numbers are in the 919 area code.

Accreditation	560-4581	Crime Prevention	560-4404	Records	560-4423
Administrative Services	560-4322	CrimeStoppers	683-1200	Recruiting/Employee Services	560-4402
Chief of Police	560-4322	Criminal Investigations Division	560-4440	Special Events Application	560-4935
Community Services	560-4438	Fiscal Services	560-4589	Special Operations Division	560-4454
Crime Analysis	560-4258	Information & Technology	560-4304	Telephone Response Unit	560-4528
		Professional Standards	560-4430	Training Unit	560-4168
		Public Information/Public Relations	560-4322	Victim Services	560-4951

Durham City Council

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Farad Ali
Eugene A. Brown
Diane N. Catotti
Howard Clement, III
Cora Cole-McFadden
J. Michael Woodard
Tom Bonfield, City Manager

Durham Police Department Administration.

Jose Lopez, Sr.	Chief of Police
Steve Mihaich	Deputy Chief – Operations
Loretta Clyburn	Deputy Chief – Operations Support
Lee Russ	Assistant Chief – North Operations (Districts 1, 2, 5)
Winslow Forbes	Assistant Chief – South Operations (Districts 3, 4)
Larry Smith	Assistant Chief – Special Operations
Jesse Burwell	Civilian Assistant Chief

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Contributing Photographer
City of Durham Office of Public Affairs

Notice Under the Americans with Disabilities Act

Persons who require assistance to participate in DPD services/programs, should call the City's ADA Coordinator, voice 919-560-4197, TTY 919-560-1200, or email ADA@durhamnc.gov, as soon as possible but no later than 48 hours before the event or deadline date.